

SENATOR HIGGINS: ....but this bill calls for continuing education for embalmers and funeral directors. Now what if they only work at it part-time? Do you think they should still have continuing education?

SENATOR HEFNER: If they want to get their license they would have to take sixteen hours of continuing education.

SENATOR HIGGINS: But the industry feels that the education is necessary, correct?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, this is correct.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So do you think the industry would want somebody there that is only part of the time the staff is educated and part of the time they are not? I mean, wouldn't that be defeating your purpose of your bill if you were able to hire people part time and not require the education, then you get around the requirements of the law couldn't you?

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Higgins, this would....this continuing education would have to be approved by the Board of Examiners of the Embalmers and Funeral Directors, yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So you agree then that they would have to be full time, that there is no room there to have part-time funeral directors and licenses embalmers if they don't qualify if they don't have that continuing education? How much time is left, Mr. Speaker, on this?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yours?

SENATOR HIGGINS: No, on the bill itself.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Seven minutes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Okay. Senator Hefner, did I interpret your answer correctly then?

SENATOR HEFNER: I don't know how you interpreted my answer. Could you tell me?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well your bill says that it is necessary for the public good and welfare that licensed funeral directors and embalmers have so many hours of continuing education. And my question to you is, if they only work at it part-time would it not still be in the best interest of the public welfare and good that part-time embalmers and funeral directors also have this continuing education?